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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 22 | Humidity 70% Mostly cloudy Sensex 76,728 | Nifty 23,946 | Gold 1,42,389 | Silver 2,18,563 | Dollar 94.57 | Euro 107.96 | GBP 125.26

KEEP YOUR HEAD

Though heat is often used as excuse to ditch head gear, study finds temperature doesn't influence helmet use in city

PAGE 3

QUAKE CALL

B'luru is said to sit in a relatively low seismic hazard region, but new assessment offers more nuanced understanding of risks

PAGE 5

As BLOs to begin door-to-door voter verification today, requirement of having 2002 electoral records sends many in city rummaging through their memories and cupboards to figure out details from 24 years ago

THROWBACK TO 2002

According to election commission, the objective is to establish a verified legacy record for each voter

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File photo of a protest against the SIR process in Bengaluru

When Booth Level Officers (BLOs) begin their month-long door-to-door voter verification drive across the City from Tuesday, one question is expected to leave many voters scratching their heads: Where were you enrolled in 2002?

For many, the answer is not straightforward. Software professional Chandan G said the exercise was difficult due to constituency changes after delimitation. "My vote is now in Dasarahalli, but in 2002, I don't even remember which constituency I belonged to. I think it was Uttarahalli," he said. Mohammed Sharif, a 58-year-old resident of ITI Layout, said, "In 2002, my constituency was Pulakeshinagar, but it was missing from the SIR list.

I had to search under Jayamahal, Shivajinagar and Bharatinagar, yet I couldn't find my name despite trying different spellings and my father's name. Most people won't remember where they lived or voted 24 years ago, making verification very difficult." John T, a senior citizen from SK Garden, said, "I have voted in Pulakeshinagar for decades, but its records were listed under Jayamahal. I had to cross-check multiple records and search using my relatives' names before I could locate mine."

Their confusion mirrors what election officials expect thousands of voters to face during the Election Commission of India's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

> **"I have voted in Pulakeshinagar for decades, but its records were listed under Jayamahal. I had to cross-check multiple records and search using my relatives' names before I could locate mine**
>
> —John T, senior citizen

Birth control

K'taka's total fertility rate has declined by over 21% in the past decade, statistical report shows

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A couple of decades ago, families with more than two children were a common sight in Karnataka. Today, that picture has changed dramatically. The average number of children a woman is expected to have during her lifetime has fallen to just 1.5, according to the Sample Registration System (SRS) Statistical Report 2024.

The figures show that Karnataka's total fertility rate (TFR) has declined by more than 21% over the past decade, from 1.9 in 2012-14 to 1.5 in 2022-24. Since a fertility rate of about 2.1 is considered the replacement level required to maintain a stable population, the state's current rate signals a significant demographic shift.

The crude birth rate has also fallen sharply, declining from 18.8 births per 1,000 people in 2011 to 14.9 in 2024.

Experts attribute the decline in fertility to a combination of social, lifestyle, and biological factors, with delayed parenthood emerging as a key driver. As more couples prioritise higher education, career growth, and financial stability before starting a family, many are attempting pregnancy at older ages.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Artistic escape

A hands-on Natural Dyeing Workshop introduces beginners to sustainable textile dyeing, exploring fabric preparation, mordanting and colour development through step-by-step demonstrations.
Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar;
When: July 4, 12 pm

02 Spectacle on stage

Madari Productions presents Dirty Biryani, a drama comedy musical that celebrates womanhood. The story follows three eccentric women who meet serendipitously, ensuing chaos and craziness as events take surprising turns.
Where: Jagriti Theatre;
When: July 11, 3.30 pm, 7.30 pm

03 Celebrating culture

The Academy of Music (Regd), Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Vyalikaval, is set to present 'Nrutya Rangoli 2026', a prestigious three-day national dance extravaganza celebrating the richness and diversity of Indian classical dance traditions.
Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall;
When: July 10 to 12

04 Soulful tunes

MG Sreekumar, the voice behind some of the most cherished melodies in Malayalam cinema, will be performing live, bringing the magic of his iconic hits, electrifying stage presence and nostalgia that connects generations of music lovers.
Where: Forum South Bengaluru;
When: August 22, 5 pm

05 Vibe set

Flo Sante 2026 offers a one-day curated shopping experience bringing together a wide range of women-led brands across fashion, jewellery, home décor, lifestyle, food and more.
Where: Princess Shrine;
When: July 3, 10 am

Gig worker welfare rules meet pushback

Industry giants approach High Court seeking quashing of Act, claim Karnataka's legislation introduce additional liabilities and obligations for aggregators

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File photo of gig workers in Bengaluru

A group of platform aggregators, including Swiggy, Zepto, Urban Company, Valmo Transportation and Eternal Ltd, along with the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), has approached the Karnataka High Court challenging the constitutional validity of the Karnataka Platform-Based Gig Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Act, 2025, and the Rules framed under it. The petition is yet to be taken up for hearing.

The companies have sought to set aside notices issued under the Act directing them to comply with various statutory requirements, including constituting Internal Dispute Resolution Committees (IDRCs), paying welfare fees and furnishing information to the authorities.

According to the petition, Parliament has already put in place a comprehensive legal framework through the Code on Social Security, 2020, which governs the welfare of gig and platform workers. The petitioners contend that the Central law covers the identification of gig workers, formulation of welfare schemes, aggregator contributions and the mechanism for implementation.

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IN HIGH COURT

They argue that Karnataka's legislation creates an overlapping regulatory framework by introducing additional financial liabilities and separate compliance obligations for platform aggregators. The petition maintains that the State law is repugnant to the Central legislation under Article 254 of the Constitution, as Parliament has already legislated on the subject of social security for gig workers.

Besides challenging the Act itself, the petitioners have sought to quash the Karnataka Platform-Based Gig Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Rules, 2025, the notification constituting the Karnataka Platform-Based Gig Workers Welfare Board and a government order issued on February 12, 2026.

Meanwhile, worker organisations have criticised the legal challenge. The Indian Federation of App-Based Transport Workers (IFAT), Telangana Gig and Platform Workers Union (TGPWU) and Karnataka App-Based Workers Union (KAWU) urged the companies to withdraw the petition and engage with workers and the government instead.

'RTI obligations persist despite staff changes'

The Karnataka High Court has held that the office of the First Appellate Authority under the Right to Information Act is a statutory office whose legal obligations remain attached to the office irrespective of changes in personnel, ruling that an incoming officer cannot evade responsibility for pending matters by attributing delays to predecessors.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj dismissed a writ petition filed by Shivakumar CL, Secretary of the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) and the designated First Appellate Authority, challenging orders of the Karnataka Information Commission imposing a personal penalty of Rs 25,000 for non-compliance with the RTI Act.

Rejecting the petitioner's defence that the defaults had occurred before he assumed office, the court said, "Acceptance of such a contention would result in administrative paralysis and would enable statutory obligations to be indefinitely postponed by the simple expedient of transfer of officers, a consequence wholly contrary to the object and purpose of the Right to Information Act."

Finding no illegality or procedural infirmity in the Commission's orders, the High Court dismissed the writ petition. It, however, clarified that the dismissal would not prevent competent authorities from examining the role of the petitioner's predecessors and initiating separate action, if warranted, for delays committed before May 8, 2025.

Research transforms coffee cultivation

The Coffee Research Sub-Station at Chettalli in Kodagu has achieved a major breakthrough in coffee cultivation by developing coffee plants through tissue culture, reducing dependence on seeds for raising new varieties. Using a small part of a plant, such as a leaf, scientists can now produce thousands of genetically identical coffee plants that retain the desirable traits of the parent plant. The biotechnology-driven initiative aims to develop high-yielding, disease-resistant Arabica and Robusta varieties capable of withstanding climate change, rising temperatures, erratic rainfall and emerging pests and diseases. The research, which began at the Coffee Board's Mysuru centre, shifted to Chettalli in March 2025, where state-of-the-art laboratories and controlled plant growth facilities have been established. Scientists said tissue culture ensures uniform growth and consistent bean quality unlike seed-grown plants, which may show variations. **–BMB**

Citizens demand revision of high towing fees

The return of vehicle towing to curb illegal parking has triggered criticism, with many questioning why the towing charge exceeds the actual traffic fine. Motorists caught parking in no-parking zones must now pay Rs 1,150, which includes a Rs 500 statutory fine and a Rs 650 towing fee. For cars, the towing charge is up to Rs 1,000. Citizens argue that while traffic fines are fixed under government rules, the towing fee has become an additional financial burden, particularly for the middle class. They demanded a revision of the fee structure, pointing out that a single towing vehicle can transport up to four two-wheelers at a time, making the Rs 650 charge per bike appear excessive.Experts and motorists say the focus should be on improving traffic management rather than turning enforcement into a revenue-generating exercise. They allege that towing staff are more concerned with meeting daily targets than easing congestion. **–BMB**

Homebuyer's fight ends in landmark victory

A 70-year-old homebuyer has won a landmark victory before the Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority (K-RERA), which directed a builder to transfer all project-related assets, including the land khata, BESCOM and BWSSB utility meters, corpus fund, escrow account balance and maintenance-related accounts, to the registered apartment owners' association within 90 days. The order was passed on a complaint filed by Yoganandan Jagannath of New Haven Tata Value Homes in Arishinakunte. Jagannath alleged that despite six years since taking possession, the builder failed to provide the promised Cauvery water connection, install the required infrastructure and overhead storage tanks, even after collecting Rs 14,895 from each flat owner for the water connection. Rejecting the builder's contention that maintenance-related issues were the responsibility of the residents' association, K-RERA ruled in favour of the complainant. **–BMB**

Heat's not an excuse for no helmet

Findings of study reveal no major correlation between wind speed, temperature, visibility and helmet use, contrary to idea that usage declines during hot weather

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Helmet use is crucial to prevent fatalities and serious head injuries in road accidents (File photo)

While two-wheeler riders in Bengaluru often cite heat and discomfort as reasons for avoiding helmets, temperature may not significantly influence helmet use in the city, according to research published in 2026 in the medical database PubMed.

The ecological study using secondary data sources, conducted by researchers from the Department of Epidemiology at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) and the Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit (JH-IIRU), examined whether physical environmental conditions affect helmet use among powered two-wheeler (PTW) users in Bengaluru.

According to the research paper, road traffic injuries remain a major public health concern in India, with helmet use recognised as one of the most effective measures to prevent deaths and serious head injuries among motorcyclists. Despite helmets being widely available and their protective benefits well established, correct helmet use in Bengaluru has historically remained low. Earlier studies reported proper helmet use at just 34 per cent.

According to official statistics, 50,029 people who died in road traffic crashes across India were reportedly not wearing helmets at the time of the incident, accounting for nearly one-third of all traffic fatalities. In Bengaluru, authorities estimate that nearly 70 per cent of two-wheeler users killed in crashes were not wearing helmets.

Researchers conducted roadside observations of helmet use at 15 locations across Bengaluru between November 2021 and January 2022.

During the study period, the overall prevalence of helmet use among riders was found to be 92 per cent. Researchers also collected weather-related data, including temperature, humidity, wind speed, atmospheric pressure and visibility, to examine whether these environmental factors influenced riders' decisions to wear helmets.

The average temperature during data collection was 23.6°C, while the average wind speed was 9.93 km/h. Atmospheric pressure averaged 1,015 millibars, humidity stood at 70.2 per cent, and average visibility was 4.7 kilometres.

Analysis of the data revealed a significantly negative correlation between pressure and helmet use, while a significantly positive correlation was found between humidity and helmet use. No significant correlation was found between wind speed, temperature, visibility and helmet use rates.

The research pointed out that

Improved enforcement and increased penalties are also likely to deter vehicle users from riding without helmets, says researcher

studies from other countries suggest that helmet use tends to decline during adverse weather conditions, particularly extreme heat. However, some research has found no significant relationship between weather conditions and helmet-wearing behaviour. Comparable evidence from India remains limited.

One of the researchers noted that although the study revealed a significant positive correlation between humidity, atmospheric pressure and helmet use, there is a need to explore the biological plausibility underlying this epidemiological observation. "As Bengaluru is located at a high altitude and has a relatively cooler climate, the effects of humidity on helmet use are likely to be discounted. Improved enforcement and increased penalties are also likely to deter vehicle users from riding without helmets, irrespective of humidity levels. In-depth rider-level studies are needed to better understand the relationship between humidity, atmospheric pressure and helmet use. The study also found no significant association between temperature and helmet use in Bengaluru city, even though temperature is often cited by riders as a reason for not wearing helmets," said the researcher.

Experts emphasised the need to prioritise behavioural interventions, enforcement and road safety awareness, cautioning against attributing helmet use in Bengaluru solely to weather conditions as a major barrier.

City records three murders in 48 hours

Over the last 48 hours, Bengaluru has witnessed a series of violent crimes, with two women murdered in separate incidents on Sunday night, while four people were arrested for allegedly murdering a rowdy sheeter on Saturday evening, prompting police to launch multiple parallel murder investigations.

Man stabs partner to death

In the first incident reported from Mahalakshmi Layout, a 23-year-old woman, identified as Anjali, was allegedly stabbed to death by her boyfriend, Rajeev (24) following a heated argument over marriage. According to police, the couple had been in a relationship for more than three years. The two got acquainted while working at a car showroom. However, Anjali's family had reportedly opposed the relationship due to Rajeev's criminal background. He was involved in a robbery and attempted murder case earlier.

Police said Rajeev had repeatedly tried to convince Anjali and her family to approve their marriage, but all his attempts failed. In recent weeks, Anjali had reportedly yielded to pressure from her parents and started distancing herself from him. On Sunday evening, Rajeev asked Anjali to meet him for dinner. During their meeting, he once again brought up the topic of marriage. However, the conversation soon escalated into a heated argument after Anjali firmly reiterated that she would not marry him.

Enraged by her refusal, Rajeev allegedly took Anjali to a secluded stretch on Pipeline Road near KP Agrahara at around 9.30 pm and attacked her with a knife. Even as Anjali tried to flee by running, Rajeev reportedly chased her down and continued the assault before fleeing the scene. Passersby who spotted her immediately rushed her to a hospital. However, doctors declared her dead on arrival. Her body was shifted for a post-mortem examination. Mahalakshmi Layout police officials inspected the crime scene and, using technical evidence, tracked down Rajeev.

Woman found dead in rented room

In another incident under the jurisdiction of the Bommanahalli Police Station, a 40-year-old woman, identified as Krishna Barman, was found dead in her rented house at Muniyappa Layout on Sunday night. Preliminary investigations suggest she was strangled to death.

The woman, who lived alone in a small rented room at Muniyappa Layout in Hongasandra, was working as a cook. Police suspect she was murdered by someone known to her, as there were no signs of forced entry into the house. Officials from Bommanahalli Police Station visited the scene, registered a case, and launched an investigation.

Rowdy sheeter hacked to death

Four accused involved in the brutal murder of a rowdy sheeter have been secured so far by police within the limits of Kumaraswamy Layout, following an attack that took place on Saturday evening on JP Nagar Main Road. A 29-year-old rowdy sheeter, identified as Raju, a resident of Pragathipuram, was hacked to death by a group of assailants near IG Circle around 5.30 pm on June 27. According to police, Raju had stopped for tea and was walking along the road when four to five armed miscreants suddenly attacked him with sharp weapons. Though he tried to escape, the attackers chased and repeatedly assaulted him in full public view amid heavy traffic before fleeing. Police suspect old enmity to be the motive behind the murder. Investigation is ongoing. —BMB

Five arrested for kidnap, robbery

Madanayakanahalli police have arrested five persons in connection with kidnapping and robbery. According to police records, on June 15, seven unidentified persons intercepted the complainant and his driver, who were transporting Rs 74 lakh in cash, near Kuduregere Colony, kidnapped them and demanded an additional Rs 35 lakh. After payment, the victims were abandoned near Nelamangala. Acting on intelligence, police arrested one accused near Bagepalli on June 20, recovering cash, car and a mobile phone. Investigations led to further arrests and recovery of remaining cash. All accused are in judicial custody. BMB

Duo held for chain snatching

Based on a complaint lodged by a resident of Romeo Layout, Vijayanagar Police Station officials have arrested two chain snatchers and seized 155 grams of gold bullion and a two-wheeler, amounting to Rs 23 lakh. According to reports, the victim was walking towards her house when two unidentified persons arrived on a motorcycle, snatched her 25-gram gold chain and fled. On June 10, police apprehended one accused near Railway Parallel Road, while the second accused was arrested near Nayandahalli on June 11. The accused were remanded to judicial custody on June 22. BMB

Carpenter held for theft of gold, cash

Hebbal Police Station officials have arrested a person and seized 151 grams of gold jewellery and cash, worth Rs 22.90 lakh, in connection with a theft case. A complaint was lodged by a resident of Manorayanapalya on June 13, regarding a theft, with suspicion falling on a carpenter who had visited the house. Police nabbed the accused near Yeshwanthpur Railway Station and recovered Rs 80,000 in cash and the stolen jewellery from his possession. BMB

Street vendors oppose B'luru footpath clearance drive

Association alleges authorities threaten vendors before issuing formal orders, demands full implementation of Street Vendors Act and protection against unlawful evictions

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A street vendors' organisation in Bengaluru has opposed the State government's proposed drive to clear footpaths, arguing that vendors are being unfairly portrayed as encroachers despite legal protections under the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.

In a press statement issued on Monday, the Karnataka Progressive Street Vendors' Association, affiliated with the All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU), welcomed Urban Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda's concern for safe and accessible footpaths but cautioned against using the initiative to evict vendors without following due process.

The association alleged that officials of municipal corporations governed under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Act had begun warning vendors of eviction even before any formal government order had been issued, creating anxiety among thousands of street vendors across the city.

The organisation claimed that nearly two lakh street vendors in Bengaluru provide affordable vegetables, fruits, flowers, food and other daily essentials to working- and middle-class residents. It said many vendors have already been surveyed by civic authorities, availed loans under the PM SVANidhi scheme and are registered with recognised trade unions. According to the association, street vendors are lawful users of public spaces under the 2014 Act and should not be treated as encroachers.

Vendors seek stronger legal protection against unlawful evictions across Bengaluru

> "Nearly two lakh street vendors in Bengaluru provide affordable vegetables, fruits, flowers, food and other daily essentials to working- and middle-class residents
>
> –Karnataka Progressive Street Vendors' Association

Referring to the Street Vendors Act, the organisation said the law permits vending on roads, roadsides and footpaths, subject to regulation. It alleged that civic authorities had failed to complete mandatory surveys, constitute Town Vending Committees and identify vending zones as required under the legislation.

The association contended that Section 3(3) of the Act prohibits the eviction of street vendors until all eligible vendors have been surveyed and issued certificates, while Section 18 requires a written notice of 30 days before any eviction. It accused the government of ignoring these statutory safeguards.

Highlighting the economic condition of vendors, the organisation said most could not afford commercial rents in Bengaluru and that street vending remained their only source of livelihood. It added that many vendors are senior citizens, single women and persons with disabilities, making eviction without rehabilitation particularly severe.

The association argued that several other factors contribute to obstruction of footpaths, including illegal parking, electricity transformers, utility boxes, private gardens extending onto pavements, restaurants and shops occupying pedestrian spaces, and construction materials. It urged authorities to act against these encroachments instead of targeting street vendors.

Among its demands, the association called for full implementation of the Street Vendors Act, completion of vendor surveys and issuance of identity cards, constitution and strengthening of Town Vending Committees, an immediate halt to illegal evictions and seizures, widening of footpaths instead of removing vendors, action against actual encroachments, and consultations with street vendors' organisations before any footpath clearance drive.

₹140-crore push to fix Bengaluru's ageing sewers

Officials blamed ageing pipelines, rapid urbanisation and improper sanitary waste disposal for worsening sewer overflows, prompting major infrastructure investment this year

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City's ageing underground drainage network, strained by rapid urbanisation, high-rise construction and a growing population, is set for a major upgrade with the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) allocating ₹140 crore this year to improve and expand sewer infrastructure across the city.

The move comes amid growing concerns over overflowing manholes, sewage flooding during monsoons and mounting pressure on a network spanning 11,894 km that serves more than 11.5 lakh sanitary connections. Officials admit the system, originally designed for a very different Bengaluru, is struggling to meet the demands of one of India's fastest-growing urban centres.

A BWSSB official said, "The pressure on the system became particularly evident during last year's monsoon, when several neighbourhoods witnessed flooding aggravated by sewage overflows and blocked drainage lines. In many locations, manholes spilled onto roads, creating health hazards and disrupting traffic." Officials say the problem is no longer limited to ageing infrastructure but also stems from changing patterns of urban development. Older sewer lines were designed for one- and two-storey buildings, while many areas now have apartment complexes and multi-storey structures. Unauthorised sewer connections, inadequate rainwater harvesting systems, and disposal of sanitary waste and plastics into toilets have further increased the burden.

Undersized sewer pipes replaced to improve wastewater flow across city

Over the past year, BWSSB spent ₹132.55 crore on sewer-related works, including laying new underground drainage pipelines and sub-main lines, constructing manholes, replacing ageing and undersized pipes, desilting blocked sections and repairing damaged infrastructure. The board also created separate pipelines to divert sewage to treatment plants and prevent wastewater from entering lakes. Officials say nearly 7,800 sewer-related works were undertaken during the previous financial year.

A significant part of the modernisation drive now involves robotic technology. Over the last 10 months, BWSSB has increasingly relied on robotic inspection systems to identify defects and blockages without digging up roads, reducing costs and inconvenience.

Officials say improper disposal of sanitary pads remains one of the biggest causes of sewer blockages. The non-biodegradable material absorbs water, expands and gets lodged inside pipelines, trapping other waste. BWSSB estimates sanitary waste causes nearly 58% of manhole blockages.

Alongside routine upgrades, BWSSB is implementing a ₹1,097.88-crore sewer infrastructure project under the World Bank-supported Karnataka Water Security and Disaster Resilience Programme. Work began six to seven months ago, with ₹137.88 crore already spent. "With nearly 19%of the project completed, we hope the investment will help future-proof Bengaluru's sewer system," an official added.

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Space shrunk
Varthur

Residents allege that earth dumped along a canal originating from Varthur Lake has significantly narrowed its width, raising fears of water flow obstruction near Ramdev Medicals, Varthur Kodi.

Choke hold
Koramangala

New pavement work in the ST Bed area is encasing tree bases in cement, restricting root health and ultimately leading to the trees' decline.

Broken path
Hulimavu

At Nobel Residency Road, Chandrasekarapura in Central Excise Layout, poor road condition and civic upkeep issues in the area require immediate attention from authorities.

Ground reality defies court's ground rules

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If the complaints lodged with the Commissioner of Police and the Parappana Agrahara Police are anything to go by, it appears that both the police and the accused are unaware of the significance of an order passed by the Supreme Court. While the police are yet to take stringent action against those allegedly responsible for violating the apex court's order to maintain the status quo in a land dispute, the accused are said to have continued violating the order, causing inconvenience to the complainant and making him feel unsafe.

"We entered into a sale agreement with the landowner, who permitted us to construct a compound wall and develop a layout. A writ petition is pending before the Supreme Court, and the hearing has been adjourned until August. I do not understand why the accused are in such a hurry instead of waiting for the Supreme Court's judgment. I have been running from pillar to post seeking justice, but to no avail. I want the police to provide security for our employees and tenants from the accused," said Mohammed Fateh Ahmed, son of Mohammed Nazeer Ahmed.

The Parappana Agrahara Police have registered two Non-Cognizable Reports (NCRs) based on complaints lodged by Mohammed Nazeer Ahmed.

According to the first complaint, lodged on June 13, Ramanujam, Toji and others allegedly demolished toilets and created a nuisance at around 3 pm on June 12 on land bearing Survey Nos. 91/8 and 92. The complainant requested the Police Inspector to summon the accused and warn them against creating further problems.

Complainants allege trespass, obstruction and intimidation by rivals, claiming authorities failed to act despite repeated complaints

A second NCR was registered on June 24, against Cable Srinivas Murthy and others for allegedly creating disturbances and using abusive language.

"I sent a complaint to the Commissioner of Police on 26 June by Speed Post, seeking directions to the Parappana Agrahara Police Inspector to register an FIR against the accused and provide security for my tenants and employees, as the Police Inspector failed to take stringent action against those responsible for creating disturbances and trespassing. The accused also placed a steel container on the road, blocking vehicular access," said Mohammed Fateh Ahmed.

He added that he had posted a video on social media tagging the Bengaluru Police, explaining how the accused were creating problems.

The complainant alleged no action had been taken despite directions from Bengaluru Police. Inspector Naveen said the complainant was asked to produce property documents, while the accused was told to remove the container blocking the road. Both parties have been directed to maintain the status quo.

Quake check: Closer look at city's seismic position

Deadly tremors in Venezuela shine unsettling spotlight on Bengaluru, where scientists believe underground realities may differ sharply from reassuring official seismic classifications today

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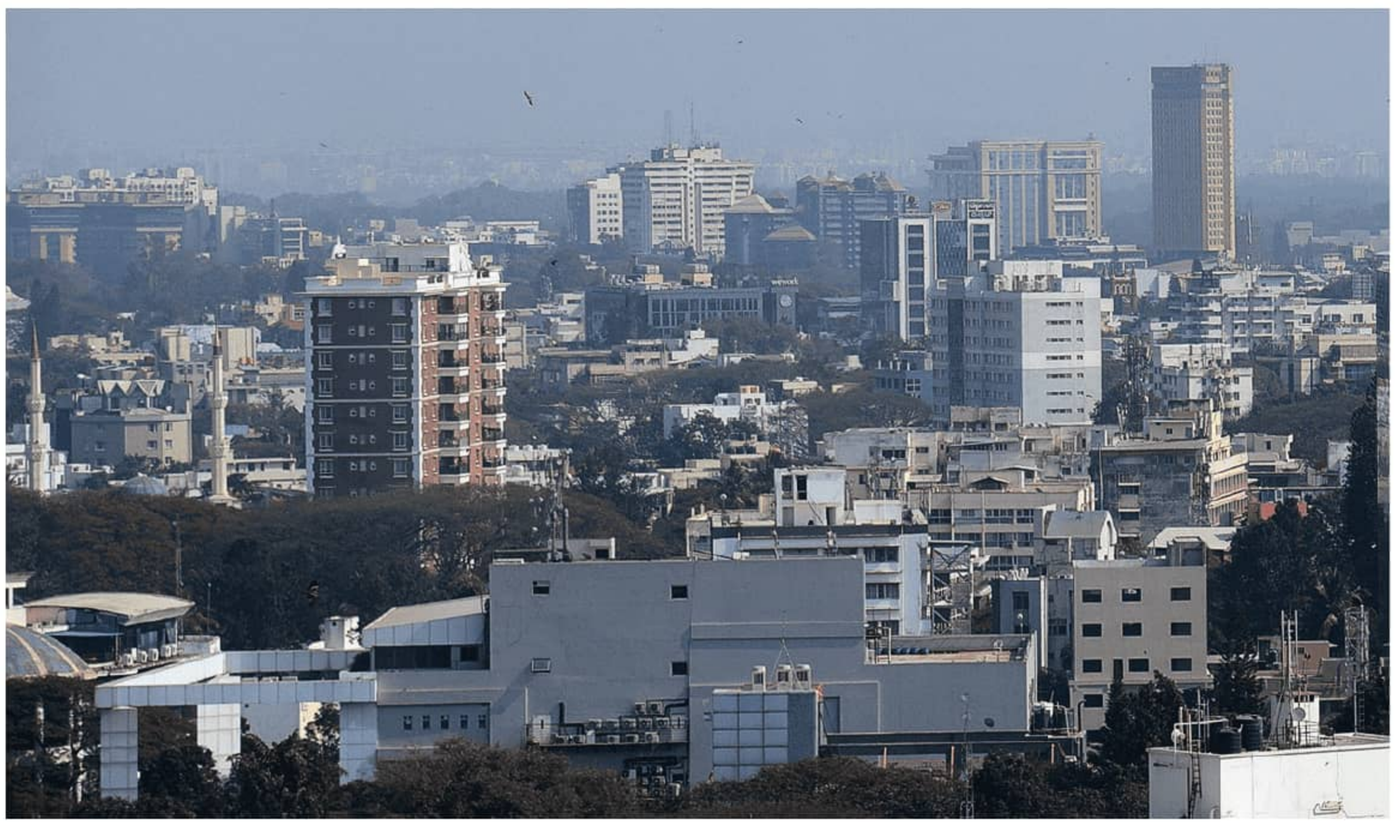

The devastating earthquake in Venezuela has triggered fresh global concern over urban safety and disaster preparedness, prompting a closer look at Indian cities often considered low-risk. Bengaluru, in particular, falls under Seismic Zone II as per the Bureau of Indian Standards (IS 1893), which classifies it as a low seismic hazard region with a zone factor of 0.10. On paper, this places the city among the relatively safer urban centres in India. However, scientific assessments suggest that the ground reality beneath Bengaluru may be more complex than the official classification indicates.

A detailed study, Seismic Hazard Analysis for the Bangalore Region (2006) by TG Sitharam and P Anbazhagan, conducted at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, offers a more nuanced understanding of the city's seismic behaviour. The research examined faults, lineaments and shear zones within a 350-km radius of Bengaluru and mapped more than 150 historical earthquake events in the region. It identified 21 potentially active seismic sources, with the Mandya–Channapatna–Bengaluru lineament emerging as the most significant fault system influencing the city. The study estimates that this structure is capable of generating an earthquake of magnitude 5.1, which could produce Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) in the range of 0.146g to 0.153g at rock level in Bengaluru. Such levels of ground shaking, while not catastrophic in absolute terms, are significant enough to affect poorly designed or ageing structures.

This presents a critical comparison between the official classification and scientific observations. While Bengaluru remains firmly placed in Zone II (low hazard category) under the national seismic zoning framework, the IISc findings indicate that local geological conditions could behave in ways that resemble higher hazard zones during certain seismic events. Experts note that this mismatch is not unusual, as the national seismic map is designed for broad regional planning and does not account for micro-level variations in soil composition, underground rock formations or local fault activity. This is precisely why researchers have repeatedly called for detailed seismic microzonation of Bengaluru.

The study also challenges the long-held assumption that peninsular India is geologically stable. Southern Karnataka, particularly the Mysuru–Bengaluru corridor, has recorded repeated moderate earthquakes over the past two centuries. Historical references cited in the research trace seismic activity in the region back to 1807, while modern monitoring by the India Meteorological Department and seismic stations such as Gauribidanur has recorded multiple tremors in the magnitude range of 4.0 to 5.5. These recurring events suggest that tectonic stress continues to accumulate and be released intermittently in the region.

Further geological evidence supports this assessment. According to the study, active and reactivated faults have been identified near Kanakapura, the Arkavathi river basin, Manchanabele and parts of the Cauvery region. Remote sensing studies have also identified the Mandya–Channapatna–Bengaluru lineament as a tectonically active structure. Earlier geological interpretations even suggested that parts of southern Karnataka, including Bengaluru, Mandya and Kolar, could merit consideration for Seismic Zone III classification, although this has not been adopted under the current national framework.

Experts call for microzonation, stricter building norms, continuous monitoring and better preparedness to minimise damage

Researchers stress there is no imminent earthquake threat, but the IISc study highlights that seismic risk varies across Bengaluru due to local soil conditions that can amplify ground shaking. Experts say microzonation, stricter enforcement of building codes and continuous monitoring are essential as the city rapidly expands with high-rises and transport infrastructure. Strong-motion accelerographs have also been installed to improve seismic monitoring. While Bengaluru remains a low seismic risk city, scientists say the Venezuela earthquake underscores the need for greater preparedness and stricter planning.

IN BRIEF

Suspicious homestay death under investigation

A 24-year-old woman was found dead under suspicious circumstances at a homestay near Nandi Hills in Chikkaballapur district on Monday, while her male friend was found unconscious in the same room. Police are investigating whether the case involves murder or suicide.

The deceased, Sai Surabhi from Bengaluru, was found hanging in a homestay near Muddenahalli on Monday. Her boyfriend, Sanjeeth Ali of Kozhikode, Kerala, was found unconscious and is undergoing treatment after a suspected suicide attempt.

Police recovered tablets from the room, raising suspicions of possible poisoning. A diary containing handwritten notes was also seized and is being examined. Surabhi's body has been sent for a post-mortem examination, while forensic experts inspected the scene.

Surabhi's mother alleged that Sanjeeth murdered and harassed her daughter despite earlier police complaints. Police said all angles are being investigated and Sanjeeth will be questioned after he regains consciousness. **BMB**

High times end as cops crack drug network

In two separate drug busts, the CCB Narcotics Wing arrested four alleged drug peddlers, including three Nigerian nationals, and seized 10.270 kg of MDMA crystals worth Rs 21 crore. Police said the trio had overstayed their visas and allegedly sourced the drugs from associates in Delhi for sale in Bengaluru.

In a separate case, Banaswadi police arrested a man from Kerala and seized 2.044 kg of hydro ganja worth Rs 2 crore. Police alleged the contraband was procured from Kerala for distribution in the city. Separately, coordinated raids across eight police station limits led to 13 arrests and the seizure of ganja, hydro ganja, MDMA, e-cigarettes, hookah products and vehicles worth an estimated Rs 2.23 crore. **BMB**

NCAP funds spent, but Bengaluru still gasps for clean air

₹535.5 crore distributed across six agencies, yet experts warn absence of scientific framework leaves city vulnerable to worsening pollution

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Air quality funds backed pollution studies and traffic infrastructure improvements

Despite electric buses, road upgrades, and waste tracking systems, experts caution that NCAP funds risk diversion, leaving critical gaps in monitoring, forecasting, and targeted pollution control measures

So far, National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) funds allocated to Bengaluru have been distributed among six government agencies to undertake air pollution mitigation measures.

Over the last four years, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has sanctioned ₹535.5 crore under NCAP to the Forest, Environment and Climate Change Cell (FECCC) of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA).

Official records reviewed by BM show that of the total sanctioned amount, ₹76 crore has been allocated to the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), ₹53 crore to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), ₹105.6 crore to the Traffic Engineering and Control Department, ₹98 crore to the Road Infrastructure Division of the erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), ₹53 crore to the Forest and Horticulture departments under FECCC, and the largest share, ₹148.9 crore, to Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML).

According to FECCC officials, these agencies have undertaken a range of projects using NCAP funds. BMTC has procured 126 electric buses and established charging infrastructure. KSPCB has conducted five air pollution-related studies and purchased laboratory and field equipment to monitor pollution levels across the city.

The Traffic Engineering and Control Department has improved traffic junctions through road development works and the installation of water fountains. BSWML has spent ₹148.9 crore on software systems to track waste generation, public awareness and IEC campaigns, and the removal of construction and demolition waste during 2023-24. The Road Infrastructure Division has improved roads supporting last-mile connectivity to Bengaluru's Metro network, while the Forest and Horticulture departments have developed Miyawaki forests, nurseries and public parks. Around ₹438 crore of the ₹535.5 crore sanctioned under NCAP has been spent so far.

However, air quality experts and researchers who spoke to BM said the spending pattern reflects the absence of a scientific resource allocation framework to guide the efficient use of funds received under the 15th Finance Commission Air Quality Grants.

"Bengaluru currently lacks a scientific framework to identify priority areas for NCAP investments. In the absence of such a framework, funds risk being diverted towards activities that could be financed through existing departmental budgets. Instead, NCAP resources should focus on interventions that directly address air pollution and are not adequately covered by other agencies or funding streams," said Professor Gufran Beig, Chair Professor at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS).

Experts also pointed to major gaps in air quality monitoring, noting that Bengaluru has only 11 Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS). They recommended expanding the monitoring network and developing an air quality forecasting system to identify pollution hotspots, issue timely public advisories and support targeted interventions before pollution levels worsen, thereby enabling authorities to make evidence-based decisions and improve long-term air quality management across Bengaluru.

City on way to reclaiming encroached footpaths

The Bengaluru Central City Corporation has directed immediate action to clear encroachments and improve the maintenance of pedestrian footpaths across the city. A review meeting chaired by Commissioner Jagadeesh G was held on Monday, where officials were instructed to ensure footpaths are made safe and accessible for public use, as per the directives of Greater Bengaluru Development Minister K Krishna Byre Gowda.

The commissioner noted that several stretches across the city are currently affected by encroachments, waste dumping, and construction debris, making pedestrian movement difficult. He instructed officials to identify and remove such obstructions and upgrade footpath infrastructure without delay.

As part of the first phase, a total of 90 km of footpaths 15 km in each of the six divisions under the Central City Corporation has been identified for clearance and development. Engineering teams have been asked to submit detailed lists of priority stretches requiring maintenance. The initiative aims to ensure safer, smoother pedestrian movement and improve urban mobility across Bengaluru's major roads. **–BMB**

Wife strangles husband, calls it heart attack

A 50-year-old man was allegedly strangled to death by his wife, who initially tried to pass off the murder as a heart attack, police said on Monday. The deceased, identified as Nithyananda, worked at a car showroom and lived with his wife, Sushila, a private school teacher. The couple had no children. The incident took place in Kuvempunagar on Sunday night. Police said Sushila allegedly strangled her husband with a rope while he was asleep after returning home in an inebriated condition. She told his brother it was a heart attack, but he noticed neck injuries and alerted police. Sushila later confessed. Investigators suspect disputes over finances, property, and childlessness triggered the crime. **–PTI**

BM Trippin' Tales

Consumer Connect Initiative

Muthathi drowning tragedy triggers demand for permanent police outpost

Repeated drowning incidents prompt demands for a police outpost, barricades, lifeguards and stronger safety measures to protect visitors permanently

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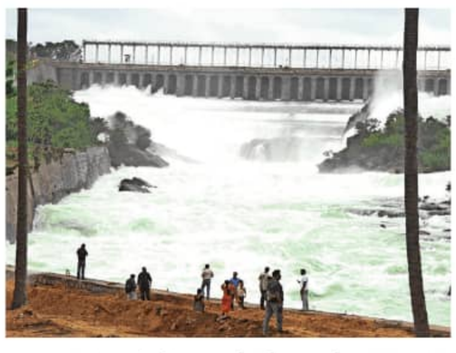
The recent drowning of five people, including four members of a single family and their driver, at the popular tourist spot of Muthathi on the Cauvery River has triggered renewed concern over safety lapses at the site. The incident, which occurred last week, has once again highlighted the recurring pattern of fatal accidents at the scenic but dangerous picnic destination, prompting political intervention and fresh calls for urgent preventive measures.

Following the tragedy, Union Minister H D Kumaraswamy has written to Home Minister Priyank Kharge, urging him to establish a police outpost at Muthathi and strengthen on-ground safety measures to prevent further deaths. He has also called for the deployment of adequate security personnel, installation of warning signboards, and the erection of barricades or barbed-wire fencing along vulnerable stretches of the riverbank to prevent visitors from entering dangerous waters.

The minister pointed out that the Cauvery stretch at Muthathi has become a recurring accident zone, with more than 11 deaths reported in the last five months alone due to drowning incidents involving tourists attempting to swim in unpredictable currents. Over the past five years, official and local estimates suggest that



more than 36 people have lost their lives in similar accidents. Kumaraswamy said the situation demands immediate intervention rather than routine warnings, as the number of such incidents continues to rise despite occasional policing.

Muthathi, located around 100 km from Bengaluru, is one of the most visited weekend picnic destinations in southern Karnataka, attracting thousands of visitors, particularly during holidays. Known for its dense forest surroundings and scenic river landscape, the area draws families, students and software professionals seeking a break from city life. However, locals and officials say the riverbed contains strong currents and hidden whirlpools that make several stretches unsafe for swimming despite the Cauvery appearing calm on the surface.

Local residents claim that nearly 40 to 50 dangerous pockets exist along the river stretch, with powerful underwater currents capable of pulling even experienced swimmers. Fishermen familiar with the terrain often warn visitors against entering the water, but many ignore the advice. Several of these hazardous zones lie just a few metres from the riverbank, increasing the risk of people accidentally stepping into deep currents.

While tourist-friendly locations such as the Bheemeshwari Fishing Camp provide regulated access and safety equipment, Muthathi remains largely open and unmonitored. Critics say the lack of prominent warning boards, lifeguards and strict enforcement has contributed to repeated tragedies. Kumarswamy urged the government to install barricades, strengthen monitoring and establish a police outpost to prevent recurring drowning death at Muthathi.

A weekend getaway loved for its natural beauty is increasingly becoming a place of heartbreak, exposing how neglected safety infrastructure and risky river conditions continue claiming innocent lives

MONEY can't BUY success

Gulf nations such as Saudi Arabia have been pouring money into football but their big moment is yet to come

Saudi Arabia's Abdulelah Al-Amri and Ali Lajami look dejected after the match as Saudi Arabia are eliminated from the World Cup

Gulf countries like Saudi Arabia and Qatar that poured a fortune into soccer and infrastructure experienced unceremonious exits from the World Cup, proving that big money doesn't guarantee success on the sport's biggest stage.

Saudi Arabia is out at the earliest point. Again. Bottom of a group that included tiny Cape Verde, the third-smallest nation ever to compete on this stage and into the knockouts for the first time.

By signing the likes of Cristiano Ronaldo, Neymar and Karim Benzema as part of a spectacular recruitment drive in recent years, Saudi Arabia has been a major disruptor of club soccer. But on the international stage it still has a long way to go eight years out from hosting the World Cup in 2034.

On Sunday, Saudi Arabian Football Federation president Yasser Al-Misehal resigned. Taking full responsibility for the failed World Cup campaign, he said that stepping aside will allow for a "new phase" of leadership within Saudi football.

Qatar, the host four years ago, is also on its way home after just three games, so too are the other gulf nations Iran and Iraq. Compared to the success of African teams at this World Cup, with nine out of 10 advancing to the round of 32, gulf nations are struggling mightily to make their mark.

A goalless draw against Cape Verde ended Saudi Arabia's hopes of advancing from the group phase for the first time since 1994.

"It was not what we wanted because when playing in such a match against a team that is more or less the same level as us, our performance was not good. So this gives rise to concern," Saudi coach Georgios Donis said.

Qatar made history with its first point at a World Cup, scoring a dramatic late equalizer against Switzerland. But it was another disappointingly early exit after it was eliminated just two games into its home tournament in 2022.

"I think that they show that at least we were able to compete in these kind of matches," coach Julen Lopetegui said.

The appointment of Lopetegui — the former Spain and Real Madrid coach — is evidence of the type of investment Qatar has made to try to boost its performance on the global stage. Unlike Saudi Arabia, it has not embarked on such an audacious drive to attract aging stars from Europe to its domestic league.

Despite a population of 3 million people and only around 300,000 citizens, it has managed to develop enough homegrown players to win back-to-back Asian Cups in recent years and assert its dominance on a region that includes powers like Japan and South Korea.

But it has not been able to translate those performances to the World Cup, and such an early exit marks a disappointment less than four years after hosting the tournament and spending billions of dollars to create eight state-of-the-art stadiums.

"You compare with other countries ... for sure we know who we are," said Lopetegui. "But at the same time I think that this is one little country but with a big passion, a big investment ... we have to improve every day and they did this. "We look to the future being optimistic about this for sure."

It's all about the future for Saudi Arabia, too, after winning the right to host the World Cup in 2034.

It has been on a mission to wield influence in sports around the world, from buying Premier League Newcastle to launching LIV Golf and hosting world title boxing matches and Formula 1.

The World Cup would be its standout achievement as it looks to move away from its heavy reliance on oil and explore other revenue-generating sectors.

It will want its national team to make a statement at its home tournament and while superstar signings like Ronaldo have raised the profile of its league, the hope is that they will also raise standards.

Yet after pulling off one of the biggest upsets in World Cup history by beating eventual champion Argentina four years ago, there was no standout moment this time — failing to advance beyond the group phase for the sixth time in a row.

"When we have these stars in the Arabian League, I think that the more competitive the competition, the better our players will be," said Donis. "But it's different when we're playing for the national team because in the national team, these experiences, there needs to be a certain mentality." —AP

HIGHLIGHTS

Eustaquio's strike sends Canada into last-16

Stephen Eustaquio's last-gasp strike earned co-hosts Canada a hard-fought victory over South Africa in the Round of 32 to move into the last 16 of the FIFA World Cup for the first time.

It was a tough battle against a talented and spirited South Africa, but Canada created the better chances throughout and Eustaquio stepped up to hammer home a stoppage-time winner.

Neither of these sides had ever made the knockout phase before and Canada will now continue their World Cup journey. Jesse Marsch's men will face the Netherlands-Morocco winners at Houston Stadium.

Canada had already achieved a series of historic milestones at FIFA World Cup 2026, including earning its first-ever point and first-ever victory at a FIFA World Cup. Now, with a place in the Round of 16 secured, Canada have an opportunity to build on its remarkable run and further establish itself on the world stage. —IANS

South Korea coach quits after rap from Prez

South Korea coach Hong Myung-bo resigned Sunday after the team's quick elimination from the World Cup drew a harsh condemnation from the country's president, who called the coach "incapable" and ordered a complete review of the national team program.

South Korea won its opening match against Czech Republic, then lost its next two Group A matches to South Africa and Mexico.

South Korea hoped it would qualify for the next round as one of the third-place teams to advance in this year's expanded tournament. That ended when Congo defeated Uzbekistan 3-1 on Saturday.

The quick exit for a team that expected to advance left the national team program in turmoil and drew a sharp rebuke from President Lee Jae Myung. He leveled pointed criticism at the coach. AP. —AP

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

In time of tragedy

Netherlands have rallied around striker Cody Gakpo after he and his partner lost their unborn son during pregnancy with coach Ronald Koeman and captain Virgil van Dijk hailing the couple's fortitude. Gakpo's partner Noa van der Bij posted about the loss on social media on Saturday and Gakpo has been given time off to spend with family who are staying near the team base in Kansas City as the Netherlands compete in the World Cup.

"We have done what was within our power in terms of support, as players, as staff," said Koeman.

"Of course, the first few days he had the freedom to go out to his family and be with them. He dealt with it very well, there was never a moment where he said 'I want to go back, I want to be with the family'." —Reuters

Neymar stands with Venezuela

Brazilian football star Neymar has reportedly donated USD 250,000 to support emergency rescue and humanitarian relief efforts in Venezuela, according to Venezuelan news outlet El Sumario.com.

The report said the funds will be used to provide immediate assistance to people affected by the emergency, including the supply of food, drinking water, medical supplies and temporary shelters.

"My heart goes out to the people of Venezuela," Neymar said as quoted by El Sumario.com, while expressing his hope that this contribution would bring strength and relief to the affected families.

According to CNN, citing an update provided by Venezuela's National Assembly President Jorge Rodriguez, at least 1,430 people have died in the devastating twin earthquakes that hit the country on Wednesday. He added that 3,238 people have been injured, while 3,142 families have been displaced after losing their homes. —ANI

Future is uncertain

South Africa coach Hugo Broos said it is "not clever to take decisions when you are disappointed" after his side's World Cup exit, adding that he will reflect in the coming days before deciding his future.

He also hinted that the 2026 FIFA World Cup will be his last as a coach, marking the possible end of his international managerial career.

The defeat in Los Angeles, decided by Stephen Eustaquio's 92nd-minute strike for Canada, brought an end to a historic campaign in which South Africa reached the knockout stage of the FIFA World Cup for the first time in their history.

Despite the heartbreak, Hugo Broos's side left the tournament having achieved a major milestone, marking a breakthrough moment for South African football on the global stage.

"It's not clever to take decisions when you are disappointed. I will see in the next few days what I will do for the future. For sure, this is my last World Cup," Broos said as per Reuters. —ANI

Sharp decline in general fertility rate too

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"A growing number of couples are struggling with age-related infertility, diminished ovarian reserve, polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), endometriosis, and male factor infertility due to delayed parenthood.

Moreover, lifestyle factors such as obesity, chronic stress, sedentary lifestyles, poor sleep, and unhealthy dietary habits also affect reproductive health. In addition, the increasing use of smoking, vaping, and alcohol among young adults is another growing concern," said Dr Sushma BR, Infertility Specialist at Rainbow Children's Hospital, Bannerghatta.

Urbanisation and the rising cost of living have further influenced family planning decisions, with many couples consciously opting for smaller families or choosing to have only one child.

The report also highlights a sharp decline in the general fertility rate—the number of births per 1,000 women of reproductive age. It has dropped by more than 19%, from 64.3 in 2012-14 to 51.8 in 2022-24.

Healthcare experts say the declining fertility rate reflects a broader demographic and social transition rather than a single healthcare issue. They emphasise that the trend underscores the need for greater awareness about reproductive ageing and fertility planning.

"Better fertility education can help individuals and couples make informed decisions about the timing of parenthood and understand the biological limitations of delaying pregnancy, even in the era of advanced fertility treatments," Dr Sushma added.

The demographic transition is also reflected in Karnataka's ageing population. According to the report, people aged 60 years and above now account for 10% of the state's population, up from 8.4% in 2011. The figure is also slightly higher than the national average of 9.7%, indicating that Karnataka is ageing faster than the country as a whole.

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I, RAVEENDRA.M.S s/o Sreenivasaiah, residing at No.13, 18th Cross, Behind Chowdeswari Temple, Lakkasandra, Adugodi, Bangalore – 560030, have changed my name to RAVINDRA M.S and hereby declare that in my transfer certificate my date of birth mentioned as 18.06.1978 instead of 14.06.1978 as per my Aadhaar & other documents. vide affidavit dated 29/06/2026 sworn before notary, Lakshmaiah Bengaluru

I, Yonus Pasha S/o Amjad Pasha R/o #06,1st Main Road 1st Cross New JJR Nagar B'lore-560018 have changed my name to Younus Pasha.

I, Khursheed Azam R/o 1/2 1st Floor,1st Cross, Nizamuddin Mohalla Bada ,Makan Mysore Road B'lore-560002 have changed my name to Azam.

I, BHUMIKABEN DOLATSINH SOLANKI (Old Name) residing at No. L-4113, Tower 4, Sobha Lake Gardens, Medahalli-Kadugodi Road, Seegehalli, K R Puram PO: Virgonagar, Dist: Bangalore Rural, Karnataka- 560049 have changed my name to BHUMIKA KUSHALRAJ CHILODIYA (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 27/6/2026 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I Souhail Shariff S/O Vahi Shariff R/O No 56,201, Peace Paradies, Building ,02nd Main,opp to Salarpuria, Apartment Road, Madina Nagar, mangammanapalya, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru-560068 Have Changed My Name to Suhel Shariff All Purpose.

I, ADITI SABNIS residing at A207, DSR Sunshine Apts, 1st Main, 2nd Cross, Krishnareddy Layout, Banaswadi, Bengaluru - 560043, have changed my name to ADITI ASHISH SABNIS vide affidavit dated 29/06/2026 sworn before notary, S N Madhu Bangalore

I, Ramanna S/o Narasappa R/o At Divalagudda, Post Rangampet, Tq Shahapur, Dist Yadgir 585220 have changed my name to Ramanna Yadav. I shall be called by this name for all purposes

I, Prashanth Kumar Mahaveerchand, R/o No.05, Flat No. 202 ,Jineshwar Jiva Apts., M M V Road, V V Puram, Bengaluru 560004 have changed my name to Prashanth Kumar for all purposes.

I, SYEDA MAZHAR NAZ (Old Name) W/o Munaver Pasha Resident of No.5, 3rd Floor, 2nd Main, 3rd Cross, C Street, J J R Nagar, Bangalore- 560018 have changed my name to SYEEDA MAZHAR NAAZ (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 26/7/2026 Before Notary Deepa.M Bangalore.

I, Saleem Pasha Shaikh Mastan R/o F 19 No 30 4th Floor,2nd Main 3rd Cross Pothalappa Garden B'lore-560030 have changed my name to Saleem Pasha.

I, Mohd Minhaj S/O Mohammed Arif # 7 Cocks Road Shivajinagar Blr-51 have changed my name to Mohammed Minhaj for all purposes.

I, Pyaru Basha Sahib, S/o Basha Sahib, R/o Sri Krishna Nilaya, Flat G2,Annasandrapalya Main Road,Vibhutipura,HAL, Bangalore 560017,shall be known as B Pyarusahib Bashasahib for all purposes.

I, Karan Dilip R/O No 101 Sri Ramdev Complex K C Circle Chunchghatta Bengaluru 560062 Have Changed My Name to Karan Kumaar for All Purpses.

I, Aslam Pasha Ameer Jan, S/o Ameer Jan, R/o No.448 5th cross Islampur Bangalore North, Bangalore 560017, shall be known as Aslam Pasha for all purposes.

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People who were not 18 in that year must provide father's details

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The exercise requires voters to provide references to their electoral records from 2002, even though Karnataka's Assembly constituencies were extensively redrawn following the 2008 delimitation exercise.

Beginning Tuesday, nearly 60,000 Booth Level Officers (BLOs) will fan out across Karnataka to verify voter details under the month-long revision exercise aimed at updating and purifying the electoral rolls ahead of future elections. The house-to-house verification will continue till July 29, with the draft electoral roll scheduled to be published on August 5.

The Election Commission of India announced the Special Intensive Revision on May 15, following which the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka, completed statewide preparations. A total of 59,050 BLOs, 5,905 BLO Supervisors, 336 Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) and 224 Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) have been deployed.

Officials underwent multiple rounds of training beginning May 20, while enumeration forms were printed and distributed across districts.

During the exercise, BLOs will visit every household to distribute enumeration forms, verify voter details and collect the completed forms. Political parties have simultaneously stepped up awareness campaigns. The Congress has organised constituency-level workshops for its Booth Level Agents (BLAs), while the BJP has also trained its BLAs and party workers to assist voters during the verification process.

What every voter should do

- Collect the enumeration form from the visiting BLO.
- Fill in current voter details along with the required 2002 electoral reference, wherever applicable.
- Return one signed copy to the BLO and retain the second copy.
- Apply for corrections, additions or deletions, if necessary.
- Verify your name after the draft roll is published on August 5.
- File claims or objections before Septwember 4 if any discrepancy is found.

Why 2002?

The most significant feature of this year's revision is the use of the 2002 Special Intensive Revision (SIR) as the reference point for electoral verification. According to Election Commission officials, the 2002 electoral roll was the last comprehensive SIR conducted before electoral rolls became a continuously updated database. Using the 2002 rolls as the baseline helps establish the original identity and eligibility of long-standing voters while enabling officials to identify duplicate, shifted, deceased or otherwise ineligible entries that may have accumulated over the years.

"The objective is to establish a verified legacy record for each elector. The 2002 SIR provides a common reference point because it was the last exhaustive revision carried out across the country before continuous updation became the norm," a senior Election Commission official explained.

Voters, who were already enrolled in 2002, will be required to provide details of their electoral record from that period. Those who were below 18 years of age in 2002 must furnish details of their father's electoral record from that year or, where applicable, that of their grandfather.

Delimitation adds to the challenge

Officials acknowledge that locating 2002 records may prove difficult for many voters because Karnataka underwent Assembly constituency delimitation in 2008, altering constituency boundaries, polling station numbers and electoral rolls. As a result, many voters who are currently enrolled in one constituency may have been registered under an entirely different Assembly segment in 2002.

SIR 2026 Timeline

- Door-to-door visits: **June 30, 2026 – July 29**
- Rationalisation of Polling Stations: **July 29**
- Publication of Draft Electoral Roll: **August 5**
- Claims and Objections Period: **August 5 – September 4**
- Disposal of Claims and Objections: **August 5 – October 3**
- Publication of Final Electoral Roll: **October 7**

To address this, the Election Commission has uploaded the 2002 electoral rolls online and equipped BLOs with a dedicated mobile application that allows them to trace historical voter records. BLOs have also been trained to assist voters in locating their previous electoral details. "BLOs have been trained to help electors trace their old electoral records. Voters need not worry if they do not immediately remember their 2002 details, as officials have access to digital tools to assist them," an official said.

Enumeration form mandatory

District Election Officer and Chief Commissioner of GBA, Maheshwar Rao, said, "As part of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR), 76.32% of the mapping between the 2002 and 2025 electoral rolls has been completed. Of the total 1,03,88,363 voters, records of 79,27,902 voters have been mapped, while 24,60,461 remain. The remaining work will be completed at the earliest. Booth Level Officers (BLOs) will distribute enumeration forms during morning visits, collect the filled forms in the evening, and upload them online the same day. Voters wishing to update their photographs should submit a recent photograph along with the form. Forms can also be submitted at Voter Facilitation Centres (VFCs) and polling stations on holidays.

"To assist citizens, 2,855 Voter Facilitation Centres have been set up at ERO and AERO offices, while 902 facilitation centres have been opened at ward offices to support BLOs. Bengaluru Urban has 28 Electoral Registration Officers, 75 Assistant Electoral Registration Officers, 905 BLO Supervisors and 8,972 Booth Level Officers, all of whom have been trained for the door-to-door survey," he said.

Election authorities have clarified that submission of the enumeration form is mandatory for the revision exercise. The form requires voters to mention their current Assembly constituency number, polling station number and serial number from the existing electoral roll, along with the corresponding details from the 2002 Special Intensive Revision wherever applicable.

One signed copy of the form must be returned to the BLO, while the voter should retain the second copy for future reference. Officials cautioned that incorrect or incomplete information may delay verification and could require voters to furnish additional documents after receiving a notice from the Tahsildar.

Political Debate Begins

Even before the exercise commenced, the voter revision process has sparked political debate. Addressing a Congress-organised SIR awareness convention in Mysuru, senior Congress leader Siddaramaiah alleged that the revision exercise could affect democracy if citizens failed to remain vigilant.

He urged elected representatives, former legislators and party workers to ensure that every eligible voter remained on the electoral rolls, claiming that even a single vote could influence election results. He also accused the BJP of attempting to target voters from backward and minority communities through the revision exercise, an allegation rejected by the ruling party.

With the month-long verification now beginning, election officials have appealed to voters to cooperate with BLOs, keep their documents ready and verify their details carefully to avoid complications when the draft electoral roll is published in August.

HEALTH TIP: Walnuts' antioxidants and vitamin E promote healthier skin, delay ageing, strengthen hair, reduce hair loss and enhance shine

Technically a fruit, tomatoes are rich in antioxidants, vitamins and minerals that support hydration and overall summer health

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THINK BEFORE YOU SCRATCH

Researchers discover inflammation intensifies through pain-triggered defence mechanisms beneath skin

You've likely heard it since childhood: Don't scratch that bug bite or rash; you'll make it worse. But why would something that feels so good be bad?

Many things can cause itchiness, sometimes including serious diseases. Whatever the cause, doctors have long warned that scratching too much can damage the skin. Now, researchers better understand why even a mildly annoying itch can trap you in an itch-scratch cycle if you give in.

How did they find out? In part by putting tiny "cones of shame" on mice to uncover what happens at a cellular level when an itch is scratched or left alone.

They also gained insight into why a good scratch, at least initially, brings a sigh of relief. After all, not only people and other mammals scratch; even fish do. This common behaviour suggests there must be some evolutionary reason for it, and the mouse experiment hints at a small protective effect against germs, but still not enough reason to scratch.

Dr Daniel Kaplan, a University of Pittsburgh dermatologist whose laboratory studies immune reactions in the skin, was exploring a common type of itch called allergic contact dermatitis, caused by irritants such as poison ivy or nickel in jewellery.

Kaplan's research team applied a rash-inducing irritant to the ears of mice. Normal mice scratched, and inflammatory immune cells rushed to the site, increasing swelling. The rash was much milder in mice bred with defective itch-sensing nerve cells. But was the difference really due to the scratching?

Normal mice fitted with collars similar to the veterinary "cones of shame", so they could itch but not scratch, provided the answer. They, too, had much less swelling and fewer inflammatory cells.

Kaplan said the evidence matched people's everyday experiences that scratching really can make things worse.

Ignore a mosquito bite and the itch is "gone in five or 10 minutes for most people", he said. "But if you start scratching it, it's your friend for a week," becoming itchier and more inflamed.

To understand what was happening in the skin, Kaplan's team took a closer look at mast cells, among the immune system's first responders. When activated, they release compounds that can help fight germs or toxins or, through a compound called histamine, trigger itchy allergic reactions.

Scientists have long known that allergens can activate mast cells. But other signals can activate them too, including pain. And when we scratch, "we tend to scratch until it starts to hurt," Kaplan noted.

Pain-sensing nerve cells release a chemical messenger called substance P. In findings published last year, Kaplan's team reported that substance P can activate mast cells through a different molecular pathway from allergens, a double whammy that explains why scratching further inflames itchy rashes or bites.

If we experience pain, such as touching a hot stove, we learn not to do it again. Yet the relief from a good scratch is, in evolutionary terms, positive feedback. Why?

One long-held theory is that it helps creatures remove parasites such as fleas or mites. But Kaplan was also intrigued by findings from other laboratories that mast cells could fend off a common type of skin bacteria called Staphylococcus aureus. So his team infected mice and repeated the cone-of-shame itch experiment. Sure enough, those that scratched had lower levels of the bacteria on their ears, perhaps because of the extra inflammation or another mast cell-related compound.

But that is not enough of an advantage to change the health advice.

"Ultimately, scratching is deleterious," Kaplan stressed. "You should avoid scratching," he said, while acknowledging that it is "easier said than done".

What relieves an itch depends on its cause, and there is a need for better treatments. For now, antihistamines and certain other drugs for hives can reduce some itchiness triggered by mast cells. Drug companies are experimenting with other approaches called MRGPRX2 blockers that target the pathway Kaplan's team linked to scratching. Kaplan hopes a better understanding of that pathway could eventually help treat skin diseases such as chronic eczema.

For the summer itchiness caused by bug bites, poison ivy and other forms of contact dermatitis, dermatologists recommend anti-itch treatments such as hydrocortisone cream, calamine lotion or oatmeal baths.

Another tip from Kaplan: Menthol-containing creams can temporarily trick the skin into sensing cold instead of itch, just long enough that "if you don't scratch, then you break that itch-scratch cycle," he said. "It's like a cheat code." —AP

MIRRORLIGHTS

Six-month breastfeeding habit may shield children from ADHD symptoms, researchers find

Breastfeeding for up to six months could be associated with a reduced risk of ADHD symptoms between the ages of three and eight, according to a new study involving 37,600 families in Norway.

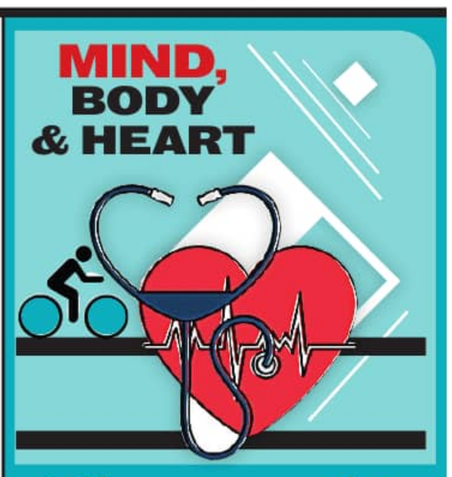
Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a neurodevelopmental condition characterised by inattention and hyperactive behaviour. Researchers from the University of Bergen examined the relationship between exclusive breastfeeding and later ADHD symptoms.

The study, published in Biological Psychiatry, found that the longer a child was exclusively breastfed, up to six months, the lower their ADHD symptoms at ages three, five and eight.

Data from the Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study were analysed using questionnaires to determine the duration of exclusive breastfeeding. The association was observed in both boys and girls and was strongest at ages three and five.

The researchers adjusted for genetic risk factors and sociodemographic influences and also compared siblings with different breastfeeding patterns. Even after these adjustments, exclusive breastfeeding showed a moderate protective association with later ADHD symptoms.

However, lead author Dr Berit Skretting Solberg stressed that, as the research was observational, it could not establish a causal relationship. The team said further studies are needed to understand the biological mechanisms linking breastfeeding with lower ADHD symptoms in childhood. —PTI



All you need to know about...

Yoga Recovery

Fat importance

Yoga has become one of the world's most enduring wellness practices, offering strength, flexibility, mindfulness and balance. Yet while many focus on movement, recovery remains an overlooked part of the journey. Yoga places significant demands on muscles, joints and connective tissues through deep stretches, balance work and strength-based poses. Like any form of exercise, it creates stress that the body must repair. Recovery restores energy, repairs tissues, reduces fatigue and builds resilience.

The four pillars of post-yoga recovery

1. Recovery begins before you leave the mat

Recovery starts before practice ends. Gentle cool-down poses such as Child's Pose, Legs-Up-the-Wall and Savasana, combined with breathwork, help calm the nervous system, release muscle tension and prepare the body for recovery.

2. Hydration and nutrition

Drinking enough water before and after yoga supports circulation and recovery. A balanced meal with protein, complex carbohydrates and healthy fats helps repair muscles, restore energy and reduce inflammation.

3. Prioritise rest and sleep

Quality sleep is essential for recovery. During sleep, the body repairs tissues, releases growth hormones and regulates inflammation, supporting physical and mental resilience.

4. Intentional recovery practices

Some practitioners also use therapies such as cryotherapy, red light therapy, compression therapy and hyperbaric oxygen therapy to support recovery. These should complement, not replace, good nutrition, hydration and sleep.

Recovery and longevity go hand in hand

Recovery supports long-term mobility, reduces fatigue and helps the body adapt to regular practice, making yoga more sustainable and enjoyable. Recovery is not the opposite of practice, it is an essential part of it. —Femina

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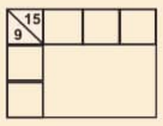
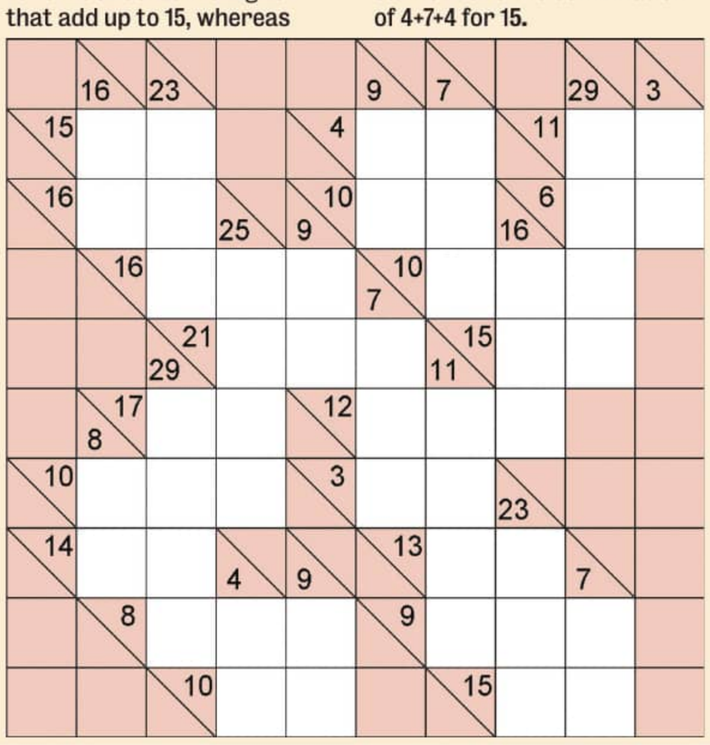
Kakuro

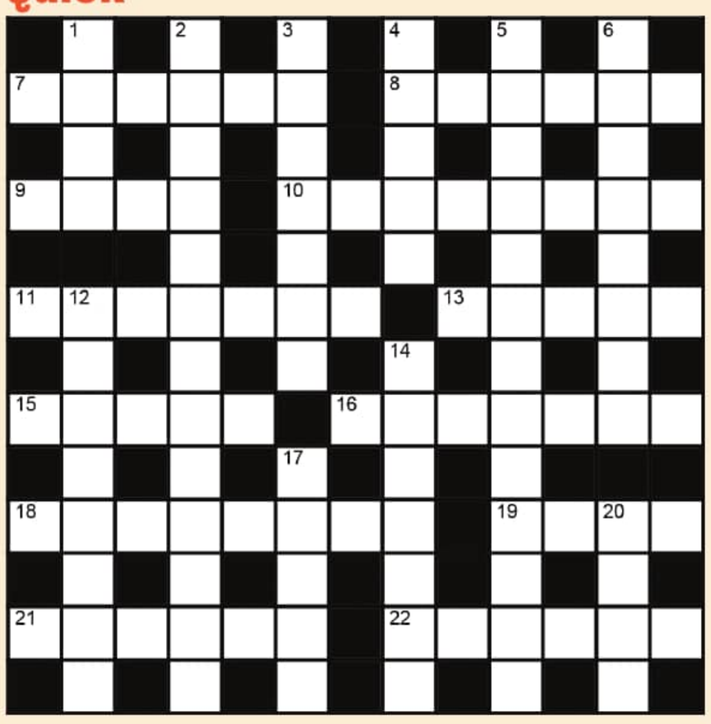
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Transgressor (6)
8 Is; lives (6)
9 Sticky paste (4)
10 Government building that offers a view of Ulsoor Lake on one side and the Bangalore Race Course on the other (4,4)
11 Disciple (7)
13 Sums owing (5)
15 Aggregate (5)
16 Steadfast (7)
18 Spanish dance (8)
19 Head supporter (4)
21 Full assembly (6)
22 Without difficulty (6)

DOWN

1 Supply abundantly (4)
2 Comprehending (13)
3 Crush under foot (7)
4 African country (5)
5 Goodness (13)
6 Physically active and strong (8)
12 Very likely (8)
14 Foils for comedians (7)
17 Foe (5)
20 Without heat (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: N EQUALS G

YJJWDFYGWQC SWGAQOG
XWBLWKRWCZ WB GAZ
VZNWCCWCN QJ XZROBWQC.

Linemaro

Everyday is Valentine's day if you want it to be. You make everyday seem like one for me

Mindchow

Education is a crutch with which the foolish attack the wise to prove that they are not idiots

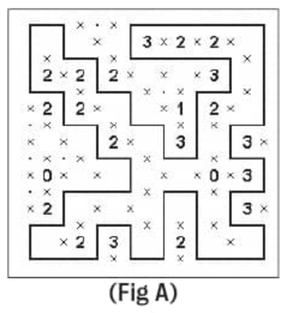
Joke of the day

Do not, on a rainy day, ask your child what he feels like doing, because I assure you that what he feels like doing, you won't feel like watching

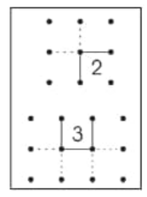
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

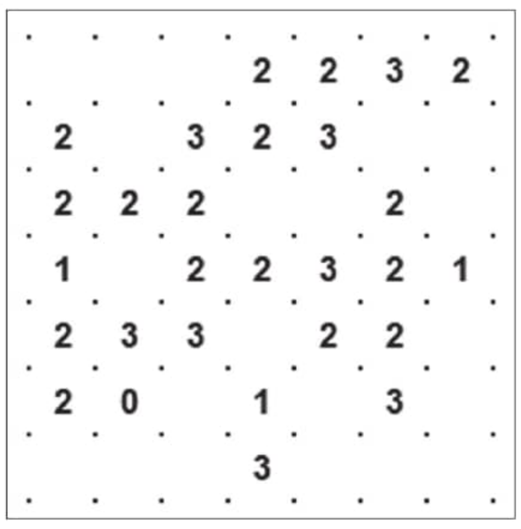


(Fig B) Not Allowed

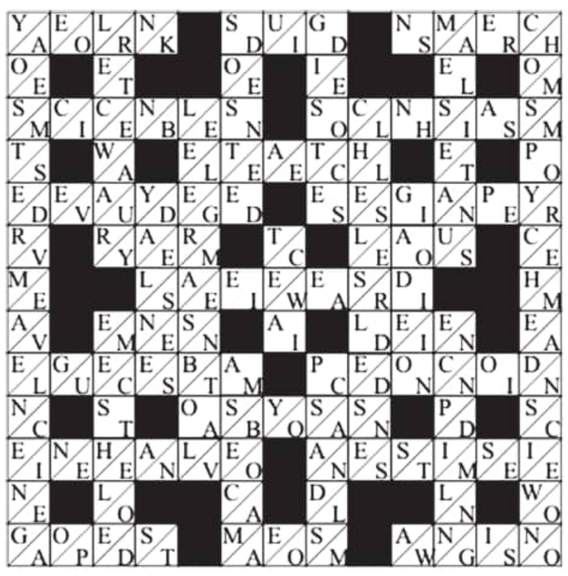
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



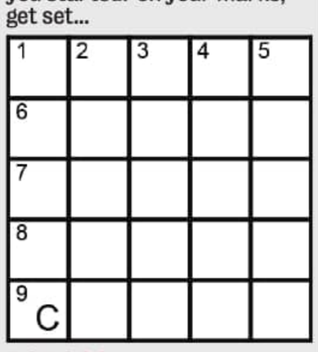
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

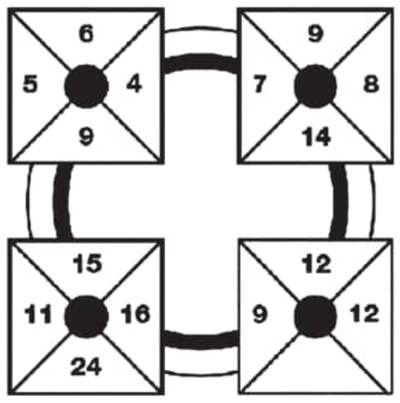
1 Elans; 6 I a mum;
7 Indra; 8 In die;
9 Cloud

DOWN

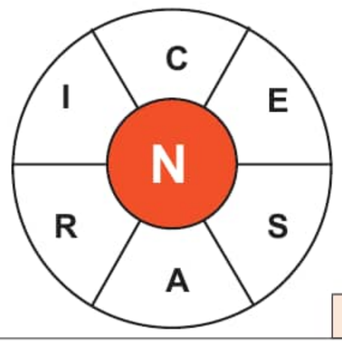
1 Lucid; 2 Naomi;
3 Nun ad; 4 Melia (1-4);
5 Rides

Mensapuzzle

Which number is missing?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

18 Average; 20 Good; 22 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

5			3		1			9
		6				3		
	9	3	2		8	7	4	
		2		9		4		
	7						1	
		4		8		6		
	3	9	4		5	2	7	
		1				5		
7			9		6			8

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 11

4 7 9 9

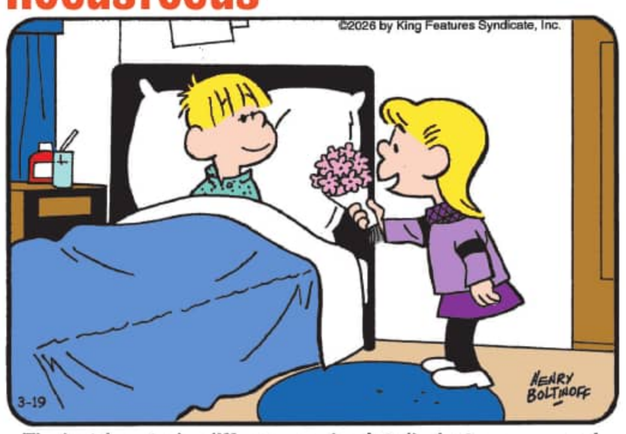
Medium = 10

3 4 7 9

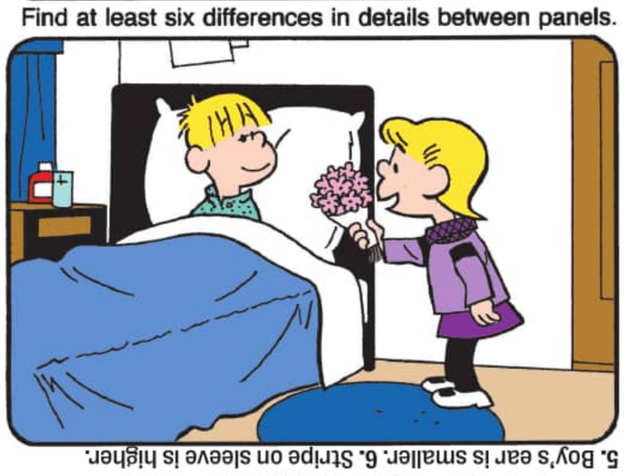
Hard = 15

2 2 9 6

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



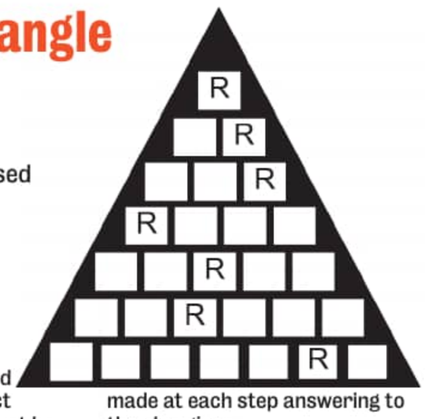
Differences: 1. Pillow is smaller. 2. Straw is missing. 3. Girl's hair is different. 4. Shoes are different. 5. Boy's ear is smaller. 6. Stripe on sleeve is higher.

Riddler

Whenever a phrase or sentence becomes part of the common language, there is a strong possibility that it will be quoted inaccurately. Over the course of time, a letter gets shifted or a word is changed and forevermore the quotation becomes a cliche that nobody ever gets quite right. Try to complete each proverbial cliche: 1.) " I only regret that I have but one life to _____ for my country."–Nathan Hale 2.) "Ask me no questions, and I'll tell you no _____." 3.) "Music hath charms to soothe _____."–William Congreve

Alpha triangle

1 18th letter
2 Conjunction
3 High hill
4 Goes off
5 Out of_, ill dis posed
6 Most irritated
7 Pearl bearers

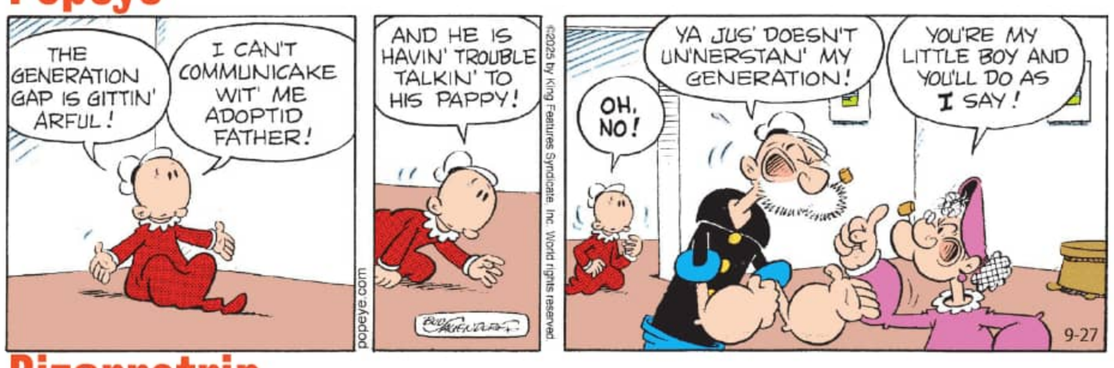


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


THE GENERATION GAP IS GITTIN' ARFUL!
I CAN'T COMMUNICAKE WIT' ME ADOPTID FATHER!
AND HE IS HAVIN' TROUBLE TALKIN' TO HIS PAPPY!
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popeye.com
YA JUS' DOESN'T UN'NERSTAN' MY GENERATION!
YOU'RE MY LITTLE BOY AND YOU'LL DO AS I SAY!
OH, NO!
9-27

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

IT'S BEEN A LONG, LONG WINTER, BUT THANK GOD TOMORROW IS FINALLY THE FIRST DAY OF SPRING!
I HEARD WE'RE GETTING ANOTHER FOOT OF SNOW TONIGHT!
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3/19
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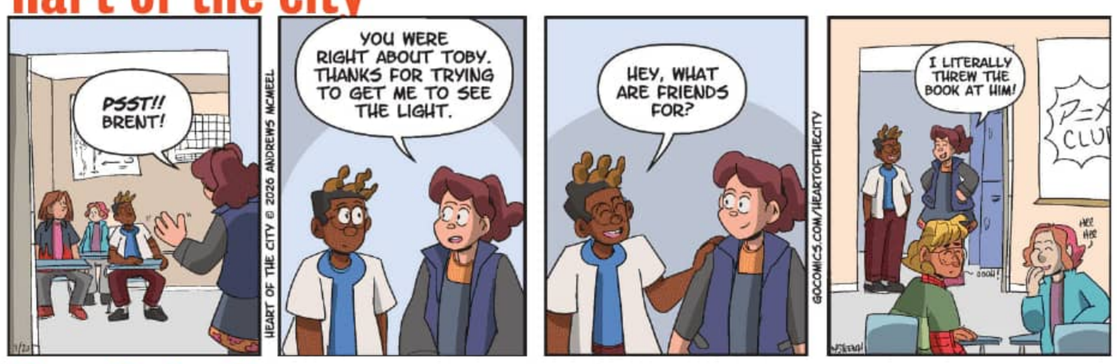
I'VE REALLY GOTTA BRUSH UP ON MY CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS

Hart of the city


PSST!! BRENT!
YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT TOBY. THANKS FOR TRYING TO GET ME TO SEE THE LIGHT.
HEY, WHAT ARE FRIENDS FOR?
I LITERALLY THREW THE BOOK AT HIM!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL
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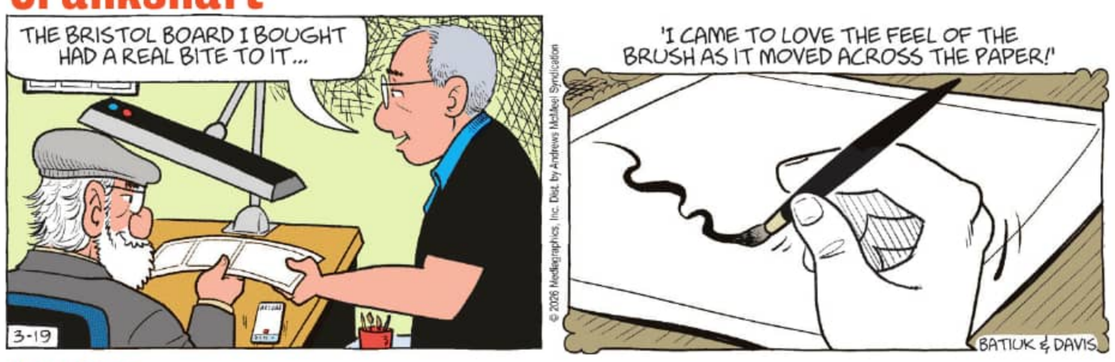
Crankshaft


THE BRISTOL BOARD I BOUGHT HAD A REAL BITE TO IT...
'I CAME TO LOVE THE FEEL OF THE BRUSH AS IT MOVED ACROSS THE PAPER!'
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3-19
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

ONE DAY THERE WERE TREES... BUSHES... STREAMS... THEN ONE NIGHT...
... NOTHING... BUT BULLDOZERS... AND TRUCKS. I COULD NOT BELIEVE IT... I JUST STOOD THERE
...LIKE A DEER IN THE HEADLIGHTS.
mutts.com
www.kingfeatures.com
3-19

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

The month concludes with a profound sense of closure and immense personal satisfaction. Career projects wrap up successfully, paving a smooth path for July's ambitious endeavors. Your finances receive a steady, comforting boost from an unexpected source. Love is celebratory and joyful tonight. Maintain this beautiful momentum by practicing daily gratitude and nurturing your mental wellness.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

Creative inspiration surrounds every area of your life today, encouraging imaginative ideas and meaningful connections naturally. Expressing yourself boldly helps attract exciting opportunities while strengthening relationships, career growth, emotional fulfillment, and personal happiness beautifully.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Family tensions may require your calming presence and balanced perspective today. Acting diplomatically without choosing sides helps restore harmony beautifully while encouraging understanding, healthier communication, emotional healing, and stronger trust between everyone involved peacefully.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Socializing may feel emotionally exhausting today, making solitude far more beneficial currently. Canceling unnecessary plans helps protect your peace beautifully while allowing rest, emotional clarity, mental balance, and healthier self-care throughout the entire day.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Responsibilities dominate your schedule today, leaving little opportunity for relaxation or personal downtime. Staying focused and persistent helps you complete everything successfully while bringing eventual satisfaction, accomplishment, relief, and deserved rest afterward peacefully tonight.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Mood swings may feel overwhelming today, though meditation and quiet reflection help restore emotional balance beautifully. Spending peaceful moments calming your thoughts encourages clarity, stability, inner peace, and healthier reactions throughout changing situations naturally.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

Following your routine carefully today creates greater stability and productivity overall. Avoid unnecessary changes or impulsive decisions currently because your energy remains limited. Staying organized helps responsibilities flow smoothly without creating additional stress unnecessarily.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Minor challenges may appear throughout today, though you already possess every resource needed for handling them successfully. Others trust your guidance naturally, so remaining calm, supportive, and solution-focused helps everyone feel reassured and confident.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Strong physical energy motivates you toward exercise, sports, and productive movement today naturally. Channeling this enthusiasm positively boosts confidence beautifully while increasing motivation, emotional balance, physical wellbeing, and overall productivity throughout your entire day.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Self-criticism may become excessive today, making compassion toward yourself especially important. Mistakes remain valuable opportunities for growth and learning naturally. Accepting imperfections gracefully helps restore confidence, emotional balance, wisdom, and healthier personal expectations moving forward.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Prioritizing your health and wellbeing becomes extremely important today after prolonged stress and neglect. Creating time for exercise, nourishing meals, relaxation, and self-care restores balance beautifully while improving emotional and physical wellness naturally today.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

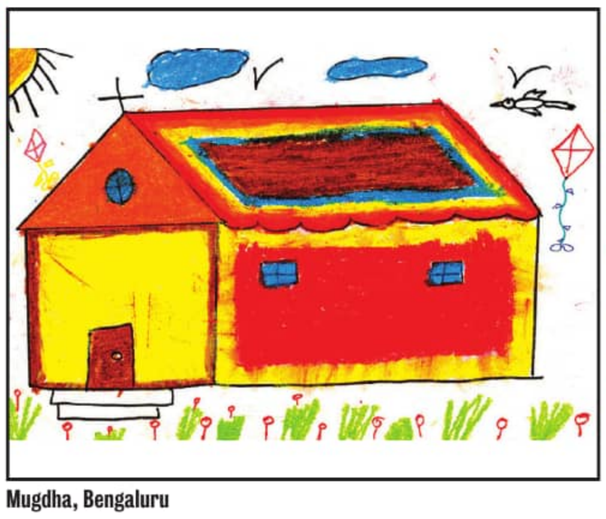
Welcoming new people into your social circle today creates exciting possibilities for friendship and personal growth. Making others feel included strengthens connections beautifully while encouraging openness, kindness, emotional warmth, and stronger group harmony naturally.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

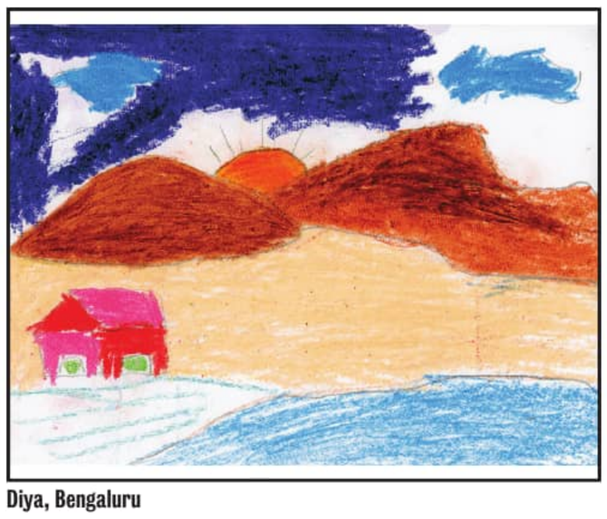
Your thinking may feel unusually irrational today, making outside guidance especially valuable and supportive. Seeking help respectfully encourages wiser decisions beautifully while allowing trusted perspectives, collaborative ideas, and meaningful solutions to guide your choices.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Mugdha, Bengaluru



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Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

2.(3²-1) / (2.(2²-1)) x 10
2.(-3) / (2².(-2)) x 10
2².(-3 + 2) x 10
2².-1 x 10
1/2 x 10
10 / 2 = 5

RIDDLER

1.) lose,
2.) ffbs,
3.) a savage breast

STRIKE OUT

QUICK

MENSA PUZZLE

19. Starting top left and moving clockwise around each square, numbers in corresponding segments advance by 2, 3, 4 and 5.

QUOTE UNCODE

Affirmation without discipline is the beginning of delusion.

SUDOKU

5	2	7	3	4	1	8	6	9
1	9	3	2	6	8	7	4	5
4	8	6	5	7	9	3	2	1
9	1	4	7	8	2	6	5	3
3	7	8	6	5	4	9	1	2
6	5	2	1	9	3	4	8	7
8	3	9	4	1	5	2	7	6
2	6	1	8	3	7	5	9	4
7	4	5	9	2	6	1	3	8

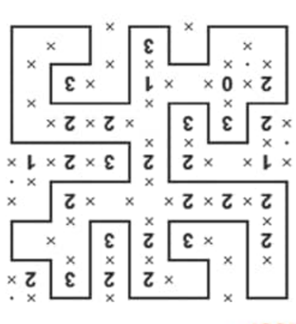
ALPHA TRIANGLE

R, Or, Tor, Rots, Sorts, Sorest, Oysters.

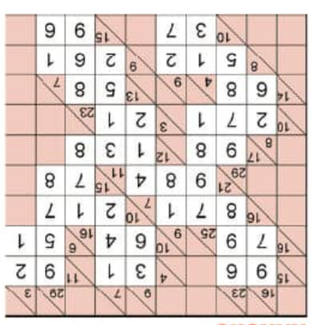
GO FIGURE

Easy
4 + 7 + 9 - 9 = 11
Medium
4 x 3 + 7 - 9 = 10
Hard
6 + 9 x 2 / 2 = 15

LOOP



KAKURO



FAST FIVE

L	A	N	E	S
U	M	A	M	I
D	I	N	A	R
I	N	D	I	E
C	O	U	L	D

BULL'S EYE

acne, anise, arisen, ARSENIC, cane, crane, earn, near, nice, nicer, rain, rein, resin, rinse, risen, sane, saner, scan, since, sine, siren, snare

Volume No 19, Issue No 128 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by Lokesh K.V. at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon-responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Jasmine faces criticism over punctuality

Punjabi singer Jasmine Sandlas has come under fire after several attendees of her Hyderabad concert alleged that the event was poorly managed and failed to meet expectations. Jasmine, who recently sang a number of tracks for 'Dhurandhar' and 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge' performed at Quake Arena in Hyderabad on June 27.

However, many concertgoers claimed that she arrived almost three hours late and allegedly lip-synced during her performance.

Apart from criticising the singer, attendees also blamed the event organisers for poor management, lack of communication and the long delay.

One attendee, Instagram user Abhiruchi Gupta, shared a detailed post expressing her disappointment. Calling herself a fan of Jasmine Sandlas, she said the concert turned out to be a frustrating experience. "The show was supposed to start at 8 pm @jasminesandlas you came at 11.20 with no acknowledgement or apology at all ?? THREE HOURS LATE !!! And then you come and lip sync, literally what, on a live show??? Then leave abruptly at the end, without any thank you, sorry or anything at all!!" she wrote.

Soon, several others who claimed to have attended t he concert shared similar experiences in the comments.

So far, neither Jasmine Sandlas nor the organisers of the Hyderabad concert have responded publicly to the allegations. At present, the claims are based on social media posts shared by people who said they attended the event.

—ETimes

Salman Khan's upcoming film

Earlier, buzz around Salman Khan's tentatively titled 'SVC63' had taken social media by storm when reports emerged that celebrated makeup and prosthetic designer Preetisheel Singh had been brought on board to craft a distinctive look for the superstar. Directed by Vamshi Paidipally and produced by Dil Raju, the film had already been generating considerable excitement, and the news of Preetisheel's involvement only added to the anticipation among Salman's fans.

The makers are now preparing to make an official announcement about the film, which is being lined up for an Eid 2027 release.

Meanwhile, Salman Khan has another exciting project in the pipeline. The superstar will be seen in 'Maatrubhumi: May War Rest in Peace', directed by Apoorva Lakhia, with Chitrangada Singh also playing a significant role in the film.

—ETimes

Jaafar, Nia celebrate 'Michael' milestone

As Jaafar Jackson's 'Michael' neared USD 1 billion globally, the stars attended the 2026 BET Awards in style to celebrate the film's success. While Jaafar Jackson took the stage with his co-star Nia Long, the duo celebrated the historical achievements the biopic made and thanked fans for watching it.

While taking the stage to present the award for Best Male R&B/Pop Artist, the two took a moment to celebrate the big achievement. The duo started by thanking the fans for showing their movie a lot of love. Jackson stated, "We're so grateful for the love you all showed to our movie. You guys had the theatres packed! We're truly so humbled. Your support means the world to the Jackson family."

Long also took the moment to thank the world for loving her portrayal of Katherine Jackson, Michael Jackson's mother, in the film.

—ETimes

BEAUTY, UNFILTERED

Ananya Panday's take on beauty, social media and self-acceptance

In an era where beauty trends change overnight and social media filters often blur the lines between reality and perfection, celebrities face constant pressure to keep up. Yet, for Ananya Panday, beauty today is less about following trends and more about embracing authenticity. The actress revealed that she has never been someone who actively chases beauty trends and instead, sticks to what appeals to her naturally.

'I am not someone who follows trends'

The Call Me Bae actress says, "I am not someone who is a trend follower. I literally have to search online to see what is currently trending, else I wouldn't know. I just know what works for me."

'Younger generation must keep cinemas alive'

Ananya received appreciation for her performances in recent releases such as Kesari Chapter 2 and Chand Mera Dil though the films didn't do wonders at the box office. The actress, who has seen a fair measure of both success and failure, firmly believes in the magic of the big screen. "I feel cinema is forever. I love going and watching every kind of film in theatres. My most favourite thing to do is watching whatever is releasing every week. For me, going to the movies was an integral part of growing up. I would encourage the younger generation to go to the theatres to watch movies and keep our cinemas alive," she says.

—ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Quirky romance

Another Kannada film with a quirky title is gearing up for release. Love 2 Lassi, directed by Hariprana and based on a real incident, had its motion poster and audio launched at Utsav Legacy on Saturday.

The unveiling was done by director Orata Shree, who extended his best wishes to the cast and crew. "A maiden movie for a debutant director is like an SSLC examination," he said with a smile.

Expressing gratitude to the chief guest, director Hariprana shared that he has previously worked as an associate director on 18 Kannada films, and now steps forward with his own directorial venture.

"Love 2 Lassi revolves around a girl from Puttur and a boy from Bengaluru. The filming of this movie was held in and around Puttur and Sullia. This is not a café love story but based on a real incident. I took the permission from the girl of the real incident that took place in 2006," said Hariprana.

The movie is backed by Bharathi Srinivas Raju under the banner of RKB Films. It features Jeevitha, Aryan, Jagan, Tara and Vaishnavi.

Murder mystery

Veteran Kannada film industry professional Yashanth Kalladka, associated with cinema for over two decades, is set to make his directorial debut with Aparadhi Naanalla. The film's trailer was unveiled at Utsav Legacy on Saturday, ahead of its theatrical release on July 3.

Aparadhi Naanalla revolves around a gripping murder case and three undertrials, promising a mix of suspense and drama. The project is backed by Ajith Chouta and Yashanth under the banners of SLV Colors and Anugraha Films, with Vikram Devadiga and Sandeep Shetty serving as executive producers.

"The movie has turned out well. The title of the movie indicates the number of undertrials in prisons, not only in the state but also across the country, but all of them are not criminals. Twenty per cent of the movie is based on a real incident while the remaining portion of the movie is fiction. Aparadhi Naanalla is my maiden movie as a director," said Kalladka.

Actor Arjun Dev urged moviegoers to support the film by watching it in theatres. The movie features Amrutha, Arjun, Pramod Shetty, Naveen D Padil, Ashok Hegde and Neethu Shetty.